

Colleen Scaglione Neglia

Family Information: Married to Eric Neglia; 3 Children; 2 in WHS (11 th and 10 th grade) 1 in WMS (7 th grade)

Education: Bachelor's Degree from University at Albany, Major: Political Science and Minor: Business Administration

Occupation: Currently stay at home mom for the last 5 years. Prior to that I worked for over 18 years as an Assistant Vice President in the Corporate Controller's Group for an S&P 500 Company.

Community Involvement:

Currently serving on the Mount Pleasant School Board; Board liaison to the Mount Pleasant Education Foundation; Audit Committee Member; Policy Committee Member; Former Co-President of the Westlake Middle School PTA; Parent member of Curriculum Initiative Assessment Committee (CIAC); Participant in the grassroots effort to inform the community of the bond facts; Parent member of the Westlake Middle School International Baccalaureate (IB) committee; served on committees to hire the Middle School Principal; Class parent (1 year for each of my 3 children); Member of Westlake Athletic Club, Member of all PTA's; Assisted my husband in starting Westlake's Jr. Wildcat basketball program (www.jrwildcats.com).

Why are you running?

I am running for re-election to continue the great work our district is doing to provide a quality education for all students while being fiscally responsible. Mount Pleasant Central School District has made great improvements over the last several years and need to align all of our efforts to become even better. Our children should have the opportunity to excel in the classroom, the theater and arts, on the athletic fields and in our community. I want residents to be confident that the school board is providing these opportunities in a fiscally responsible Manner.

What do you feel are the strengths of the district?

Bright, talented and high achieving students who excel in academics, the arts, athletics and community service. Dedicated, enthusiastic and talented teachers and staff that are committed to improving Mt. Pleasant's educational programs. Community members that generously give their time and money to volunteer through programs such as PTAs, Education Foundation, Westlake Athletic Club, Citizen Budget Advisory Committee, Curriculum Initiative Assessment Committee to name a few.

What are the top three challenges facing the district?

1. Managing Population Growth: Our district is facing many changes in relation to the planned development of up to 100 additional homes and the growing population of students. It will be a challenge to balance the growth of children in our facilities and class sizes without significant additional investment in our facilities.
2. Living in a tax cap environment: Continuing to maintain academic excellence and facilities while creating a budget that stays under the tax cap and ensures that we continue to provide the necessary programs for all our students.

3. K-5 enrichment program: I feel the K-5 program needs a more challenging curriculum for the children. It's a difficult task for teachers to teach to all levels of learners in a combined classroom. The schools do an excellent job to ensure that struggling students have additional resources to progress their education, however I would also like to have programs at the elementary level that challenge our children and allow them to advance at a more rapid pace.

How would you like to see the district face those challenges?

1. We need to monitor and forecast the student population trends and analyze the available space within our district. If population growth exceeds our capacity we must consider all options.
2. Engage in creative, out of the box thinking to solve for needs and wants of the school and community so that our teachers and students continue to have opportunities to ensure 21st century learning environments while remaining under the tax cap.
3. I would like to see a K-5 program that challenges and better prepares these young students for middle school and high school and builds a solid foundation for future academic success and lifelong love of learning.

